

METHOD FOR FORMING GATE ELECTRODE OF SEMICONDUCTOR DEVICE

BACKGROUND OF THE INVENTION

5 Field of the invention

The present invention relates to a method for forming a gate electrode of a semiconductor device, and more particularly to a method for a gate electrode of a semiconductor device which forms a re-oxidation film of a
10 sufficient thickness, using a low temperature re-oxidation process, in order to prevent an interface phase from being formed between a tungsten nitride film and a doped-silicon film for the gate electrode.

15 Description of the Prior Art

As generally known in the art, the width of gate electrodes is becoming smaller as semiconductor devices become more integrated. As the width of conductors becomes narrower, the resistance of the conductors becomes greater.
20 In the same manner, as the width of gate electrodes becomes narrower, the resistance thereof becomes greater.

Recently, a tungsten silicide WSi_x is used as the gate electrode. Various attempts to extend the usage of the tungsten silicide have been made.

However, since all devices require a high-speed characteristic, the resistance of the gate electrode should be adjusted to be lower.

Accordingly, as a substitution for the tungsten silicide
5 WSix using for the gate electrode material, manufacturers of such devices have proposed a laminate structure of tungsten film W/tungsten nitride film WN/doped-silicon film. It is expected to be used for most gate electrodes.

In the laminate structure, when only the tungsten film
10 and the doped-silicon film are laminated, a reaction occurs at the interface between the tungsten film and the doped-silicon film to form an undesirable tungsten silicide. In order to prevent the occurrence of the reaction at the interface therebetween, a tungsten nitride film is embedded
15 between the tungsten film and the doped-silicon film as a reaction inhibiting material. A small quantity of silicon nitride film is formed at a high temperature at the interface between the tungsten film for the reaction inhibiting material and the doped-silicon film.

20 After the gate electrode is formed, conventionally, in order to remove damaged layers and a field concentration in a gate edge, a gate re-oxidation process is performed.

A conventional method for forming a gate electrode in a semiconductor device will now be described with reference to

FIG. 1. FIG. 1 is a cross-sectional view showing a gate electrode in which a conventional gate re-oxidation process is performed.

After a gate oxide film 2, a polysilicon film 3 and a
5 hard mask 4 for a gate electrode are sequentially laminated on a silicon substrate 1, and the resulting object is etched to form a gate electrode 5. A gate re-oxidation process for the substrate resulting object is performed to oxidize a
10 sidewall of an exposed gate electrode by a predetermined thickness, so that a re-oxidation film 6 is formed at a sidewall of the gate electrode 5.

Due to the re-oxidation film 6, damaged layers of the gate electrode 5 are removed, and thereafter the field concentration in the gate edge is removed.

15 When forming the gate re-oxidation process, a dry oxidation process is not performed in the gate electrode 5 on which the tungsten film W/tungsten nitride film WN/doped-silicon film are laminated due to an abnormal oxidation of the tungsten film. Thus, a wet oxidation process to uniform a
20 rate of hydrogen and oxygen is performed at a high temperature higher than 1000°C.

However, when the low temperature gate re-oxidation process is performed, the interface between a tungsten nitride film and a doped-silicon film for a gate electrode is

formed, thus lowering a characteristic of the gate electrode. In order to prevent that, when the gate re-oxidation process is performed at a lower temperature, a re-oxidation film of a sufficient thickness is not formed at a sidewall of the gate electrode not to remove damaged layers of the gate electrode
5 and a field concentration in a gate edge.

SUMMARY OF THE INVENTION

10 Accordingly, the present invention has been made to solve the above-mentioned problems occurring in the prior art, and an object of the present invention is to provide a method for a gate electrode of a semiconductor device, which forms a re-oxidation film of a sufficient thickness using a
15 low temperature re-oxidation process.

Another object of the present invention is to provide a method for a gate electrode of a semiconductor device, which prevents a field concentration in a gate edge by forming an oxide film of a sufficient thickness at a sidewall of the
20 gate electrode.

A further object of the present invention is to provide a method for a gate electrode of a semiconductor device, which prevents an interface phase from being formed between a tungsten nitride film and a doped-silicon film for a gate

electrode by performing a low temperature gate re-oxidation process.

In order to accomplish this object, there is provided a method for forming a gate electrode of a semiconductor device, the method comprising the steps: i) sequentially forming a gate oxide film, a doped-silicon film, a tungsten nitride film, a tungsten film, and a hard mask film on a semiconductor substrate; ii) patterning the hard mask film; iii) etching the tungsten film and the tungsten nitride film using the patterned hard mask film as an etching barrier in order to expose the doped-silicon film; iv) implanting predetermined oxidation-accelerating ions into a portion of the exposed doped-silicon film; v) etching the exposed doped-silicon film; and vi) re-oxidizing the substrate resulting object to form a re-oxidation film at a side of the etched doped-silicon film.

BRIEF DESCRIPTION OF THE DRAWINGS

The above and other objects, features and advantages of the present invention will be more apparent from the following detailed description taken in conjunction with the accompanying drawings, in which:

FIG. 1 is a cross-sectional view showing a gate

electrode in which a conventional gate re-oxidation process is performed;

FIGs. 2A through 2G are cross-sectional views which illustrate a method for forming a gate electrode of a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention; and

FIG. 3 is a view showing a distribution of ions implanted into a side of a hard mask during an ion implantation process of FIG. 2E.

10 DETAILED DESCRIPTION OF THE PREFERRED EMBODIMENTS

Hereinafter, a preferred embodiment of the present invention will be described with reference to the accompanying drawings. In the following description and drawings, the same reference numerals are used to designate the same or similar components, and so repetition of the description on the same or similar components will be omitted.

FIGs. 2A through 2G are cross-sectional views which illustrate a method for forming a gate electrode of a semiconductor device according to an embodiment of the present invention.

Referring to FIG. 2A, a gate oxide film 22, a doped-silicon film 24, a tungsten nitride film 26, a tungsten film 28, and a hard mask film 30 are formed sequentially on a

semiconductor substrate 20.

When the gate electrode is patterned, the hard mask film 30 functions as an etching barrier. When a contact is formed, the hard mask film is used to prevent an electric short-circuiting. As a substitute of the hard mask film 30, an oxide film, a nitride film, or a combination thereof is used.

Referring FIG. 2B, a resist layer is coated on the hard mask film 30, and a resulting object is exposed to light and developed to form a resist pattern 32. The resist pattern 30 defines a gate electrode-forming region.

With reference to FIG. 2C, the hard mask film 30 is dry etched by using the resist pattern 32 as an etching barrier.

With reference to FIG. 2D, after the resist pattern 32 is removed, the tungsten film 28 and the tungsten nitride film 26 are dry etched by using the etched hard mask film 30 as an etching barrier, so that the doped-silicon film 23 formed at a lower portion of the tungsten nitride film 26 is exposed. At this time, a surface of the doped-silicon film 24 may be partially etched to a predetermined thickness.

Referring to FIG. 2E, predetermined oxidation-accelerating ions are implanted into a portion of the exposed doped-silicon film 20 and a side of the exposed doped-silicon film 20. The predetermined oxidation-accelerating ions have no effect on the portion of the exposed doped-silicon film 20

and the side of the exposed doped-silicon film 20. Preferably, in an embodiment of the present invention, the predetermined oxidation-accelerating ions includes Ge.

The ion implantation energy of Ge has a range between 20
5 to 200 KeV. The ion implantation of the Ge has a projecting
range R_p of $\pm 500\text{\AA}$ of a thickness of a remaining doped-
silicon film. An ion implantation angle of the ion
implantation has a range of 0 to 10° . For example, when the
ion implantation energy of Ge is 30 KeV, the projecting range
10 R_p of the ion implantation is 300\AA . When the ion implantation
energy of Ge is 200 KeV, the projecting range R_p of the ion
implantation is 1500\AA .

At this time, the oxidation-accelerating ion is
implanted perpendicularly to the exposed doped-silicon film
15 24. However, as shown in FIG. 3, the oxidation-accelerating
ion can be also implanted into a side of the hard mask film
30.

After the oxidation-accelerating ion is implanted to the
side of the hard mask film 30, it is implanted into a side
20 and a depth direction of the doped-silicon film 24.

Accordingly, a re-oxidation film of a sufficient
thickness is formed by a low temperature gate re-oxidation
process at the side of the doped-silicon film 24 to which the
oxidation-accelerating ion is implanted.

Due to the ion implantation, an ion is implanted into the silicon substrate on which a source/drain region will be formed. When the implanted ion has a great weight, the ion causes a surface region of the silicon substrate 20 to be
5 amorphized, thus easily forming a thin junction.

Referring to FIG. 2F, the exposed doped-silicon film 24 is dry etched to form a gate electrode 40 on which the tungsten film/tungsten nitride film/doped-silicon film are laminated.

10 With reference to FIG. 2G, in order to remove layers damaged during the dry etching process and a field concentration in a gate edge, a re-oxidation process for the substrate resulting object is performed to form a re-oxidation film 34 at a sidewall of the gate electrode 40,
15 more exactly, a sidewall of an exposed doped-silicon film 24. The gate re-oxidation process is performed at a wet atmosphere only to oxidize a doped-silicon film 24 but not to oxidize the tungsten film 28 and a tungsten nitride film 26. In particular, the gate re-oxidation process is performed at
20 a lower temperature less than 1000°C which prevent a phase from being occurred at an interface between the tungsten nitride film 26 and the doped-silicon film 24.

As indicated above, since the oxidation-accelerating ion is implanted into the side of the etched doped-silicon film

24, a re-oxidation film 34 of a sufficient thickness is formed at the side of the gate electrode 40 using a low temperature re-oxidation process at a temperature less than 1000°C.

5 Preferably, the gate re-oxidation process is implemented in a manner such that O₂ gas and H₂ gas flow to effect reaction as defined in the reaction formula $2H_2 + O_2 = 2H_2O$, under a condition for allowing the ratio between the remaining H₂ gas and H₂O produced by this reaction, as
10 designated by H₂O/H₂, to become 0.1~0.5, and at a pressure of 760 Torr and a temperature of no greater than 1000 °C.

Accordingly, the present invention forms a re-oxidation film 34 of a sufficient thickness by a low temperature re-oxidation process. Since the re-oxidation process is
15 performed at a low temperature, during the re-oxidation process, the present invention prevents an interface phase from being formed between the tungsten nitride film 26 and the doped-silicon film 24.

As mentioned above, since the present invention performs
20 the gate electrode re-oxidation process at a low temperature, it prevents an undesirable interface phase from being formed between a tungsten nitride film and a doped-silicon film laminated for a gate electrode. Thus, gate feature deterioration such as the occurrence of a signal error is

prevented.

Since the present invention forms a re-oxidation film at a sidewall of the gate electrode, a field concentration in a gate edge is prevented. It prevents a signal channel effect
5 and a degradation of a gate oxide film due to a hot carrier, thereby improving the reliability of a device.

Furthermore, since the present invention implants an ion having a great weight into a silicon substrate while adjusting an implantation energy of the ion during an
10 additional ion implantation, the ion causes a surface region of the silicon substrate to be amorphized prior to an ion implantation of source/drain, thus easily forming a thin junction.

Although a preferred embodiment of the present invention
15 has been described for illustrative purposes, those skilled in the art will appreciate that various modifications, additions and substitutions are possible, without departing from the scope and spirit of the invention as disclosed in the accompanying claims.